

Track and Intensity Information

Disclaimer: Hurricane Jeanne track and intensity information from our surveys are preliminary. Final official intensity and track will be determined by the National Hurricane Center.

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Hurricane Jeanne followed the nearly the same path across Florida as Hurricane Frances three weeks earlier and was the unprecedented fourth hurricane to strike Florida during the 2004 hurricane season. Jeanne became a tropical depression just east of the windward islands on September 12th. Jeanne's easterly track pushed the depression across the islands of Guadeloupe and Montserrat September 13 and 14 then increasing to tropical storm strength and continuing across Puerto Rico on the 15th.



Jeanne briefly increased to hurricane strength on September 16th becoming the 6th hurricane of the 2004 Atlantic tropical season before moving along the north coast of the Dominican Republic. Jeanne weakened along the coast but dumped relentless rain that washed down the barren slopes, killing over a thousand people.

Tropical Storm Jeanne then took a northerly course across the Turks and Caicos Islands on September 18th then, high pressure at mid levels strengthened to the north and Jeanne did a slow clockwise loop and regained hurricane strength over the Atlantic Ocean. The National Hurricane Center predicted the hurricane would make landfall near Fort Pierce on Florida's east coast at nearly the same location Hurricane Frances made landfall three weeks earlier over the Labor Day weekend.

Hurricane Jeanne then picked up forward speed to 14 mph and increased to a category 3 storm on the Saffir-Simpson scale with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph. Early on September 25th Jeanne pummel led the northern Bahamas islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama with wind, rain, and storm surge.

Jeanne then moved across the warm Gulf Stream waters and intensified to 120 mph. The eye of Jeanne also increased in size ranging from 30 to 40 miles across (the typical eye width is about 20 miles). Jeanne moved ashore along the east coast of Florida near Stuart late on September 25th.

Jeanne then took a course north of Lake Okeechobee slowly losing strength but maintaining a 12 to 14 mph forward speed. Jeanne kept Category One hurricane strength across much of central Florida before being downgraded to a tropical storm between Polk and Pasco County. Jeanne tracked west-northwest through northern Highlands and southern Polk Counties before bearing north through northeastern Hillsborough, eastern Pasco, central Hernando, western Citrus and weakening further as it traversed Levy County. Click [here](#) for a surface wind analysis.